# BEFORE THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Statement of Issues Against:

**CHIANTE CHALON JONES** 

Applicant for Registered Nurse License

Respondent

Case No. 2012 – 248

OAH No. L-2011120752

# **DECISION AND ORDER**

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted by the Board of Registered Nursing, Department of Consumer Affairs, as its Decision in the above entitled matter.

This Decision shall become effective on October 11, 2012.

IT IS SO ORDERED September 11, 2012.

Raymond Mallel, President

Board of Registered Nursing

Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California

1	KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California
2	GLORIA A. BARRIOS Supervising Deputy Attorney General
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7.	Attorneys for Complainant
8	BEFORE THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
9	STATE OF CALIFORNIA
10	In the Matter of the Statement of Issues Case No. 2012-248
11	Against: OAH No. L-2011120752
12	CHIANTE CHALON JONES 1401 E. Santo Antonio Drive, #364  STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER
13	Colton, CA 92324
14	Applicant for Registered Nurse License
15	Respondent.
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18	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-
19	entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:
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21	<u>PARTIES</u>
22.	1. Louise R. Bailey, M.Ed., RN (Complainant) is the Interim Executive Officer of the
23	Board of Registered Nursing. She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is
24	represented in this matter by Kamala D. Harris, Attorney General of the State of California, by
25	Langston M. Edwards, Deputy Attorney General.
26	2. Respondent Chiante Chalon Jones (Respondent) is represented in this proceeding by
27	attorney Rajan R. Maline, whose address is:
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STIPULATED SETTLEMENT (2012-248)

# Law Offices of Rajan Maline 3750 University Ave., Suite 680

# Riverside, CA 92501

3. On or about February 16, 2011, Respondent filed an application dated January 29, 2011, with the Board of Registered Nursing to obtain a Registered Nurse License.

### **JURISDICTION**

- 4. Statement of Issues No. 2012-248 was filed before the Board of Registered Nursing (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Statement of Issues and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on October 26, 2011.
- 5. A copy of Statement of Issues No. 2012-248 is attached as **Exhibit A** and incorporated herein by reference.

### ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 6. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Statement of Issues No. 2012-248. Respondent has also carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 7. Respondent is fully aware of her legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Statement of Issues; the right to be represented by counsel at her own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against her; the right to present evidence and to testify on her own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.
- 8. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

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# **CULPABILITY**

- 9. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Statement of Issues No. 2012-248.
- 10. Respondent agrees that her Applicant for Registered Nurse License is subject to denial and she agrees to be bound by the Board's probationary terms as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

# CONTINGENCY

- 11. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board of Registered Nursing. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Board of Registered Nursing may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent or her counsel. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that she may not withdraw her agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.
- 12. The parties understand and agree that facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 13. This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is intended by the parties to be an integrated writing representing the complete, final, and exclusive embodiment of their agreement. It supersedes any and all prior or contemporaneous agreements, understandings, discussions, negotiations, and commitments (written or oral). This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order may not be altered, amended, modified, supplemented, or otherwise changed except by a writing executed by an authorized representative of each of the parties.

 14. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

# DISCIPLINARY ORDER

### IT IS HEREBY ORDERED

1. The application of Respondent Chiante Chalon Jones for licensure is hereby granted. Upon successful completion of the licensure examination and all other licensing requirements, a license shall be issued to Respondent. Said license shall immediately be revoked, the order of revocation stayed and Respondent placed on probation for a period of two (2) years on the following conditions:

Severability Clause. Each condition of probation contained herein is a separate and distinct condition. If any condition of this Order, or any application thereof, is declared unenforceable in whole, in part, or to any extent, the remainder of this Order, and all other applications thereof, shall not be affected. Each condition of this Order shall separately be valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.

1. **Obey All Laws.** Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws. A full and detailed account of any and all violations of law shall be reported by Respondent to the Board in writing within seventy-two (72) hours of occurrence. To permit monitoring of compliance with this condition, Respondent shall submit completed fingerprint forms and fingerprint fees within 45 days of the effective date of the decision, unless previously submitted as part of the licensure application process.

Criminal Court Orders: If Respondent is under criminal court orders, including probation or parole, and the order is violated, this shall be deemed a violation of these probation conditions, and may result in the filing of an accusation and/or petition to revoke probation.

2. **Comply with the Board's Probation Program.** Respondent shall fully comply with the conditions of the Probation Program established by the Board and cooperate with

representatives of the Board in its monitoring and investigation of the Respondent's compliance with the Board's Probation Program. Respondent shall inform the Board in writing within no more than 15 days of any address change and shall at all times maintain an active, current license status with the Board, including during any period of suspension.

Upon successful completion of probation, Respondent's license shall be fully restored.

- 3. **Report in Person.** Respondent, during the period of probation, shall appear in person at interviews/meetings as directed by the Board or its designated representatives.
- 4. Residency, Practice, or Licensure Outside of State. Periods of residency or practice as a registered nurse outside of California shall not apply toward a reduction of this probation time period. Respondent's probation is tolled, if and when she resides outside of California. Respondent must provide written notice to the Board within 15 days of any change of residency or practice outside the state, and within 30 days prior to re-establishing residency or returning to practice in this state.

Respondent shall provide a list of all states and territories where she has ever been licensed as a registered nurse, vocational nurse, or practical nurse. Respondent shall further provide information regarding the status of each license and any changes in such license status during the term of probation. Respondent shall inform the Board if she applies for or obtains a new nursing license during the term of probation.

5. Submit Written Reports. Respondent, during the period of probation, shall submit or cause to be submitted such written reports/declarations and verification of actions under penalty of perjury, as required by the Board. These reports/declarations shall contain statements relative to Respondent's compliance with all the conditions of the Board's Probation Program. Respondent shall immediately execute all release of information forms as may be required by the Board or its representatives.

Respondent shall provide a copy of this Decision to the nursing regulatory agency in every state and territory in which she has a registered nurse license.

6. Function as a Registered Nurse. Respondent, during the period of probation, shall engage in the practice of registered nursing in California for a minimum of 24 hours per week for

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6 consecutive months or as determined by the Board.

For purposes of compliance with the section, "engage in the practice of registered nursing" may include, when approved by the Board, volunteer work as a registered nurse, or work in any non-direct patient care position that requires licensure as a registered nurse.

The Board may require that advanced practice nurses engage in advanced practice nursing for a minimum of 24 hours per week for 6 consecutive months or as determined by the Board.

If Respondent has not complied with this condition during the probationary term, and Respondent has presented sufficient documentation of her good faith efforts to comply with this condition, and if no other conditions have been violated, the Board, in its discretion, may grant an extension of Respondent's probation period up to one year without further hearing in order to comply with this condition. During the one year extension, all original conditions of probation shall apply.

7. Employment Approval and Reporting Requirements. Respondent shall obtain prior approval from the Board before commencing or continuing any employment, paid or voluntary, as a registered nurse. Respondent shall cause to be submitted to the Board all performance evaluations and other employment related reports as a registered nurse upon request of the Board.

Respondent shall provide a copy of this Decision to her employer and immediate supervisors prior to commencement of any nursing or other health care related employment.

In addition to the above, Respondent shall notify the Board in writing within seventy-two (72) hours after she obtains any nursing or other health care related employment. Respondent shall notify the Board in writing within seventy-two (72) hours after she is terminated or separated, regardless of cause, from any nursing, or other health care related employment with a full explanation of the circumstances surrounding the termination or separation.

8. **Supervision.** Respondent shall obtain prior approval from the Board regarding Respondent's level of supervision and/or collaboration before commencing or continuing any employment as a registered nurse, or education and training that includes patient care.

Respondent shall practice only under the direct supervision of a registered nurse in good

standing (no current discipline) with the Board of Registered Nursing, unless alternative methods of supervision and/or collaboration (e.g., with an advanced practice nurse or physician) are approved.

Respondent's level of supervision and/or collaboration may include, but is not limited to the following:

- (a) Maximum The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration is present in the patient care area or in any other work setting at all times.
- (b) Moderate The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration is in the patient care unit or in any other work setting at least half the hours Respondent works.
- (c) Minimum The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration has person-toperson communication with Respondent at least twice during each shift worked.
- (d) Home Health Care If Respondent is approved to work in the home health care setting, the individual providing supervision and/or collaboration shall have person-to-person communication with Respondent as required by the Board each work day. Respondent shall maintain telephone or other telecommunication contact with the individual providing supervision and/or collaboration as required by the Board during each work day. The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration shall conduct, as required by the Board, periodic, on-site visits to patients' homes visited by Respondent with or without Respondent present.
- 9. **Employment Limitations.** Respondent shall not work for a nurse's registry, in any private duty position as a registered nurse, a temporary nurse placement agency, a traveling nurse, or for an in-house nursing pool.

Respondent shall not work for a licensed home health agency as a visiting nurse unless the registered nursing supervision and other protections for home visits have been approved by the Board. Respondent shall not work in any other registered nursing occupation where home visits are required.

Respondent shall not work in any health care setting as a supervisor of registered nurses. The Board may additionally restrict Respondent from supervising licensed vocational nurses and/or unlicensed assistive personnel on a case-by-case basis.

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Respondent shall not work as a faculty member in an approved school of nursing or as an instructor in a Board approved continuing education program.

Respondent shall work only on a regularly assigned, identified and predetermined worksite(s) and shall not work in a float capacity.

If Respondent is working or intends to work in excess of 40 hours per week, the Board may request documentation to determine whether there should be restrictions on the hours of work.

10. Complete a Nursing Course(s). Respondent, at her own expense, shall enroll and successfully complete a course(s) relevant to the practice of registered nursing no later than six months prior to the end of her probationary term.

Respondent shall obtain prior approval from the Board before enrolling in the course(s).

Respondent shall submit to the Board the original transcripts or certificates of completion for the above required course(s). The Board shall return the original documents to Respondent after photocopying them for its records.

11. Violation of Probation. If Respondent violates the conditions of her probation, the Board after giving Respondent notice and an opportunity to be heard, may set aside the stay order and impose the stayed discipline (revocation/suspension) of Respondent's license.

If during the period of probation, an accusation or petition to revoke probation has been filed against Respondent's license or the Attorney General's Office has been requested to prepare an accusation or petition to revoke probation against Respondent's license, the probationary period shall automatically be extended and shall not expire until the accusation or petition has been acted upon by the Board.

12. License Surrender. During Respondent's term of probation, if she ceases practicing due to retirement, health reasons or is otherwise unable to satisfy the conditions of probation, Respondent may surrender her license to the Board. The Board reserves the right to evaluate Respondent's request and to exercise its discretion whether to grant the request, or to take any other action deemed appropriate and reasonable under the circumstances, without further hearing. Upon formal acceptance of the tendered license and wall certificate, Respondent will no longer be subject to the conditions of probation.

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Surrender of Respondent's license shall be considered a disciplinary action and shall become a part of Respondent's license history with the Board. A registered nurse whose license has been surrendered may petition the Board for reinstatement no sooner than the following minimum periods from the effective date of the disciplinary decision:

- (1) Two years for reinstatement of a license that was surrendered for any reason other than a mental or physical illness; or
  - (2) One year for a license surrendered for a mental or physical illness.
- 13. Mental Health Examination. Respondent shall, within 45 days of the effective date of this Decision, have a mental health examination including psychological testing as appropriate to determine her capability to perform the duties of a registered nurse. The examination will be performed by a psychiatrist, psychologist or other licensed mental health practitioner approved by the Board. The examining mental health practitioner will submit a written report of that assessment and recommendations to the Board. All costs are the responsibility of Respondent. Recommendations for treatment, therapy or counseling made as a result of the mental health examination will be instituted and followed by Respondent.

If Respondent is determined to be unable to practice safely as a registered nurse, the licensed mental health care practitioner making this determination shall immediately notify the Board and Respondent by telephone, and the Board shall request that the Attorney General's office prepare an accusation or petition to revoke probation. Respondent shall immediately cease practice and may not resume practice until notified by the Board. During this period of suspension, Respondent shall not engage in any practice for which a license issued by the Board is required, until the Board has notified Respondent that a mental health determination permits Respondent to resume practice. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this probationary time period.

If Respondent fails to have the above assessment submitted to the Board within the 45-day requirement, Respondent shall immediately cease practice and shall not resume practice until notified by the Board. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this probationary time period. The Board may waive or postpone this suspension only if significant,

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# **ENDORSEMENT**

The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Board of Registered Nursing of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

Dated:

Respectfully submitted,

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KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California GLOMAA. BARRIOS Supervising Deputy Attorney General

ANGSTON M. EDWARDS

Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant

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STIPULATED SETTLEMENT (2012-248)

Exhibit A

Statement of Issues No. 2012-248

	<b>  </b>
1	KAMALA D. HARRIS
2	Attorney General of California MARC D. GREENBAUM
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General LANGSTON M. EDWARDS
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 237926
5	300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013
	Telephone: (213) 620-6343
6	Facsimile: (213) 897-2804 Attorneys for Complainant
7	
8	BEFORE THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
9	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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11	In the Matter of the Statement of Issues Case No. 2012 - 248
12	Against:
13	CHIANTE CHALON JONES 1401 E. Santo Antonio Drive, #364 STATEMENT OF ISSUES
14	Colton, CA 92324
15	Applicant for Registered Nurse License
1	Respondent.
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18	Complainant alleges:
19	<u>PARTIES</u>
20	1. Louise R. Bailey, M.Ed., RN (Complainant) brings this Statement of Issues solely in
21	her official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Registered Nursing, Department of
22	Consumer Affairs (Board).
23	2. On or about February 16, 2011, the Board received an application for a Registered
24	Nurse License from Chiante Chalon Jones (Respondent). On or about January 29, 2011, Chiante
25	Chalon Jones certified under penalty of perjury to the truthfulness of all statements, answers, and
26	representations in the application. The Board denied the application on May 31, 2011.
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STATEMENT OF ISSUES

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# JURISDICTION

3. This Statement of Issues is brought before the Board under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.

# STATUTORY PROVISIONS

- 4. Section 480 states, in pertinent part:
- "(a) A board may deny a license regulated by this code on the grounds that the applicant has one of the following:
- (1) Been convicted of a crime. A conviction within the meaning of this section means a plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction following a plea of nolo contendere. Any action that a board is permitted to take following the establishment of a conviction may be taken when the time for appeal has elapsed, or the judgment of conviction has been affirmed on appeal, or when an order granting probation is made suspending the imposition of sentence, irrespective of a subsequent order under the provisions of Section 1203.4 of the Penal Code.
- (2) Done any act involving dishonesty, fraud, or deceit with the intent to substantially benefit himself or herself or another, or substantially injure another; or
- (3) Done any act that if done by a licentiate of the business or profession in question, would be grounds for suspension or revocation of license. The board may deny a license pursuant to this subdivision only if the crime or act is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the business or profession for which application is made."
  - 5. Section 2761 states, in pertinent part:

"The board may take disciplinary action against a certified or licensed nurse or deny an application for a certificate or license for any of the following:

- (a) Unprofessional conduct, which includes, but is not limited to, the following:
- (4) Denial of licensure, revocation, suspension, restriction, or any other disciplinary action against a health care professional license or certificate by another state or territory of the

United States, by any other government agency, or by another California health care professional licensing board. A certified copy of the decision or judgment shall be conclusive evidence of that action.

(f) Conviction of a felony or of any offense substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a registered nurse, in which event the record of the conviction shall be conclusive evidence thereof."

# **REGULATORY PROVISION**

6. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1444 states, in pertinent part:

"A conviction or act shall be considered to be substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of a registered nurse if to a substantial degree it evidences the present or potential unfitness of a registered nurse to practice in a manner consistent with the public health, safety, or welfare. Such convictions or acts shall include but not be limited to the following:

(c) Theft, dishonesty, fraud, or deceit."

# FIRST CAUSE FOR DENIAL OF APPLICATION

(Conviction of Substantially Related Crime)

- 7. Respondent's application is subject to denial under sections 480, subdivision (a)(1), and 2761, subdivision (f), in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1444, in that on or about June 6, 2007, Respondent was convicted of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of a registered nurse which to a substantial degree evidences her present or potential unfitness to practice in a manner consistent with the public health, safety, or welfare, as follows:
- a. On or about June 6, 2007, after pleading guilty, Respondent was convicted of a lesser misdemeanor Count 16 for violating Penal Code section 487(a) [grand theft] in the criminal proceeding entitled *The People of the State of California v. Chiante Chalon Jones* (Super. Ct. San Bernardino County, 2007, No. FWV700200). The Court sentenced Respondent to 90 days in jail,

placed her on 36 months probation, and ordered her to pay \$5,000 restitution to Bank of America.

On or about December 11, 2007, the Court dismissed the conviction pursuant to Penal Code section 1203.4.

b. The circumstances underlying the conviction are that sometime on or around 2007, Respondent opened four (4) bank accounts at Wells Fargo, Washington Mutual and Bank of America and Citibank. Then, during the time period on or around January 31, 2007, through on or about February 7, 2007, Respondent's boyfriend, E.H., deposited through wire transfers, two (2) large sums of money into Respondent's Wells Fargo account in the amounts of \$23,000.00 and \$18,750.00, respectively. Respondent then withdrew the monies from the Wells Fargo account in increments of \$5000.00 and gave the money to E.H. In exchange, E.H. paid Respondent's bills including a car payment and paying off a commercial credit card. Respondent also deposited two (2) checks in the amounts of \$7,000.00 and \$4,000.00, respectively, into her Bank of America account at E.H.'s request. Respondent also deposited \$500.00 into a Citibank account held for E.H. Pursuant to San Bernardino Sheriffs' investigation, the monies wire transferred into Respondent's account and/or deposited by the Respondent were determined to have originated from the banking accounts of others, without consent, by way of theft of their identities and banking information.

# SECOND CAUSE FOR DENIAL OF APPLICATION

# (Dishonest Acts)

8. Respondent's application is subject to denial under section 480, subdivision (a)(2), in that Respondent committed acts involving dishonesty, fraud, or deceit with the intent to substantially benefit herself and others, and substantially injure others in that she committed acts involving fraudulent theft of property. Complainant refers to and by this reference incorporates the allegations set forth above in paragraph 7, subparagraphs a and b, inclusive, as though set forth fully herein.

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### THIRD CAUSE FOR DENIAL OF APPLICATION

(Disciplinary Action by California Board of Vocational Nursing & Psychiatric Technicians)

Respondent's application is subject to denial under section 2761, subdivision (a)(4), in that on or about July 25, 2007, the Board of Vocational Nursing & Psychiatric Technicians, State of California, Department of Consumer Affairs, issued Citation Number 07-0215-L with a \$500.00 fine against Respondent for violating sections 2878(a) [unprofessional conduct] and 2878(f) [conviction of a substantially related crime], in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 2521 [substantial relationship] as a result of her criminal conviction on or about June 6, 2006, for violating Penal Code section 487(a) [grand theft] in the proceeding entitled People v. Jones, supra.

# FOURTH CAUSE FOR DENIAL OF APPLICATION

(Acts Constituting Grounds for Discipline if Licensed)

Respondent's application is subject to denial under section 480, subdivision (a)(3), in that Respondent committed substantially related acts which if done by a registered nurse would constitute cause for suspension or revocation of licensure. Complainant refers to and by this reference incorporates the allegations set forth above in paragraphs 7-9 and all subparagraphs inclusive, as though set forth fully herein.

# PRAYER

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board of Registered Nursing issue a decision:

- Denying Chiante Chalon Jones' application for Registered Nurse License; and
- 2. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

October 24, 2011

LOUISE R. BAILEY, M.ED., RN Executive Officer Board of Registered Nursing Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California Complainant

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